

FILED

JUN 25 2013

N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY STATE
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE	:	
LICENSE OF	:	
	:	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION
ZANDRA LOIS-ATKINS, L.P.N.	:	
License # NP 06228100	:	FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	
	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Zandra Lois-Atkins ("Respondent") is a licensed practical nurse in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
2. In a communication dated February 13, 2013, Respondent was asked to provide documentation of completion of her continuing education obligation for the 2009-2011 renewal period.

3. Respondent acknowledged that she had not timely completed her continuing education obligation for the 2009-2011 renewal period, and subsequently provided documentation of thirty (30) contact hours of continuing education that she had completed.

4. On Respondent's renewal application filed on April 12, 2011, Respondent indicated that she would have completed her continuing education obligation for 2008-2010 by May 31, 2011.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent's failure to demonstrate timely completion of the continuing education obligation for the June 1, 2008-May 31, 2010 renewal cycle constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3, and subjects Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h).

2. Respondent's indication that she would have timely completed the 2009-2011 continuing education obligation constitutes misrepresentation or deception within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline provisionally imposing a public reprimand and a civil penalty of \$250.00 was filed on April 8, 2013. A copy was forwarded to Respondent's last known address of record by means of both regular and certified mail. The

Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefore.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order, seeking consideration and maintaining that she was not informed when she graduated nursing school that she was required to complete continuing education after she obtained a license. Respondent also claimed that she was very busy, and forgot about the continuing education obligation. In a written response, the Attorney General argued that it is Respondent's responsibility to be aware of all regulations regarding her license including continuing education requirements. Respondent's claim is thus insufficient to protect her from discipline. The Board considered this matter, and determined that inasmuch as no discrepancies had been raised with respect to the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the Provisional Order, the Provisional Order should be made final as proposed.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 25th day of June, 2013,

ORDERED that:

1. A public reprimand is hereby imposed for Respondent's provision of inaccurate information on her renewal application in 2011.

2. A \$250.00 civil penalty is hereby imposed for the failure to comply with N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN
Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President